

CLAIMS

I CLAIM:

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1. A method of applying a cancellation mark to a mailpiece comprising the steps of:

Creating a pictorial cancellation mark in electronic form;

Transmitting said pictorial cancellation mark to a printer; and

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Printing said pictorial cancellation mark on a mailpiece.

2. The method of claim 1 wherein said step of creating a pictorial cancellation mark in electronic form further comprises scanning an image with a scanner.

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3. The method of claim 1 wherein said printer comprises an ink jet printer.

4. The method of claim 1 wherein said printer comprises a laser jet printer.

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5. The method of claim 1 wherein said printing of the pictorial cancellation mark on a mailpiece cancels the postage indicia of the mailpiece.

6. The method of claim 1 wherein said printing step further comprises applying at least two distinct colors to the mailpiece.

7. The method of claim 1 further comprising the step of storing said pictorial cancellation mark in an electronic memory.

5 8. The method of claim 7 wherein said electronic memory further comprises a computer digital memory.

9. The method of claim 1 further comprising the step of adjusting the dimensions of the pictorial cancellation mark to a preferred size.

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10. The method of claim 1 wherein said pictorial cancellation mark includes a bullseye cancellation.

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11. A method of providing a customized cancellation mark to a mailpiece comprising the steps of:

Providing a partially-designed pictorial cancellation mark;

Adding customer-supplied information to the pictorial cancellation mark so as to create a customized cancellation mark; and

Printing said customized cancellation mark on a mailpiece.

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12. The method of claim 11 wherein said customer-supplied information comprises numeric or text data.

13. The method of claim 11 wherein said customer-supplied information comprises color selection data.

5 14. The method of claim 11 further comprising the step of allowing a customer to select a design.

15. A method of applying a cancellation mark to a mailpiece comprising the steps of:

10 Providing a set of pictorial cancellation marks to a customer;
Selecting a particular pictorial cancellation mark chosen by a customer;
Applying the chosen pictorial cancellation mark to a mailpiece.

16. The method of claim 15 wherein a customer selects a particular pictorial cancellation mark and applies the chosen pictorial cancellation mark to a mailpiece.

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